

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Hollyford** Ref: **537**
County: **Tipperary (South)** Mark: **221**
Category: **A** Date(s): **03/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	31
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	18
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	12
Residential Areas	40	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	400	221

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission, which included your programme for the year and was of great assistance to the adjudicator. Hollyford has a unique layout containing two bridges with a green area in the centre, surrounded by a variety of buildings. This village has tremendous potential for future development and enhancement of the environment.

The Built Environment:

The atmosphere of the area at Jimmy Ryan Rue's Pub is very special and has a flavour typical of many Irish vernacular villages. The area was again neat and tidy. The forecourt to O'Connell's Pub needs to be decluttered of storage material. The public buildings, Church, school and Credit Union, were impressively presented. The grounds at the Church and the adjoining burial ground looked well and the neatly trimmed hedges were admired.

Landscaping:

The area between the two bridges is prominently located in the village centre. There is a possibility of creating a pathway here that could connect the millennium park to the attractive landscape area with strands of young trees extending to the Grotto.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The millennium park was truly impressive and once again is the highlight of the village. The park contains some nice features such as a flower display, seating, picnic table and bird boxes. The centrally located footbridge looks particularly well. Your programme here was noted. Were this area to be developed as a wild life reserve, it could be truly unique. We look forward to the results of your consultations with Caoillte and

FÁS.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent on the day of adjudication and it is obvious that your anti-litter campaign is having successful results. We note the planned regular clean-up days together with your communication with local home and business owners.

Waste Minimisation:

The school was again well presented and the achievement of the Green Flag gives the whole village great status. The school initiatives on recycling are impressive. The Bring Bank at the Handball Alley Yard was neat and tidy and well presented on the day of adjudication. Resurfacing here would greatly enhance the location. It is to be hoped that this programme will be developed in the coming years and that more initiatives in the Race Against Waste booklet will be adopted in the future

Tidiness:

It is to be hoped that your communication with Tipperary South Riding will be successful in relation to resurfacing at the handball alley. This area is extremely prominent and surface enhancement here would create a very good first impression. The planting of a hedge on top of the concrete block wall would further enhance this area and provide some attractive enclosure. The ongoing works on the sewerage scheme were noted. The situation regarding the sawmill and its adjacent storage yard has yet to be solved. It is to be hoped that with the co-operation of the owner progress will be made in the coming years.

Residential Areas:

The village is somewhat unique in that it does not contain a housing estate. There is however a variety of well maintained and presented residences throughout the village with the unique thatched residence being one of the highlights. The thatched house has some particularly attractive details with its three dormer windows and beautifully proportioned entrance porch.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

A nice feature of the approach roads was the flower display and the stone plant box in conjunction with each of the announcement signs. Approach roads had a variety of atmosphere, one descending from high on the hills by the Church, and terminating with the beautiful vista of the decorative thatched house by the bridge. Road signs and nameplates were again well presented. However, the signpost near the millennium garden bridge would need realignment on the completion of road constructions. Roadside margins were generally well maintained. The approach road from Anacarty along the valley is particularly charming. This area contains the attractive Grotto and the high quality planted margin opposite looked well. The Grotto itself has a natural backdrop which is simple and unfussy. Maintenance work was being carried out here on the day of adjudication. The Eamon an Chnoic announcement sign was admired.

General Impression:

Overall the village presents a charming atmosphere set in a wooded valley. We wish the committee well in its future plans.